

CRIME IN JACKSONVILLE

Mother and Four Children Are Murdered and Cremated.

FORMERLY OF THIS COUNTY

Sam Wise, Husband and Father, Suspected of Crime—Fearful Deed Was Committed Near Lincoln Park—Wise Had Threatened to Kill Entire Family.

The Jacksonville Metropolis of Friday contains the particulars of one of the most horrible crimes in the annals of history, which was committed west of Lincoln Park and near Highway avenue, Jacksonville, about 1:30 o'clock Friday morning, the victims being Lula Wise, a respectable colored woman, and her four children.

The woman had been working for W. A. Towle and occupying a house about 1,000 yards from the residence of her employer for the past two years. The cottage she occupied was situated in the center of a big field, to which she wended her way about dark Thursday, after which she was never seen alive. Fire was observed in the direction of the cottage about 1:30, but no one paid any attention to it until Mr. Towle observed the smoke Friday morning and visited the scene, finding that the house had been burned to the ground, and a horrible sight met his eyes, in the ashes being the badly charred remains of the woman and her four children.

Indications of Murder.

The body of the woman was found beneath the mattress and her skull was broken. Her position clearly showed that to escape the blows or shots of the murderer she had sought protection under the bed. Both of her legs were entirely missing and only that portion of the arms below the shoulder remained on the trunk. There was not a sign of flesh or bones below the hips to be found for an hour afterward, when the bones of the legs were discovered in the ashes badly broken. The woman's skull was thrown back, and there was not a particle of flesh on it, yet the neck and trunk were of their normal size, but badly charred. Her friends said she had excellent teeth, yet not a tooth remained in the skull.

The bodies of the four children presented a sight equally gruesome, and in every case the skull was broken. The charred body of Mary, the 13-year-old girl, was minus arms and legs, while the body of the boy, aged five years, showed only half of one arm. The other arm and his two legs, or any portion of them, had not been found up to 1 o'clock Friday afternoon.

The clearest evidence of brutal murder was shown in the body of Lucy, the 8-year-old daughter. Her body was not so badly consumed by the flames, and it could be easily seen that the top of the skull had been split into, evidently by an axe. The brains were not burned, and one hand was thrown up above the head, showing that the girl was endeavoring to protect herself. In her case the limbs below the knee were missing. Another wound completely took off a portion of the skull, and the absence of the ragged edges convinced the authorities that some one had murdered the entire family and then set fire to the house in order to hide the crime.

The youngest in the family was a 3-year-old girl. She was found near the mother under the mattress. All

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PURE BLOOD INSURES A CLEAR SKIN

When Eczema, Acne, Tetter, Pimples, or other skin diseases make their appearance it is a sure sign that the blood is filled with humors and burning acids. These being forced through the pores and glands burn and blister the skin, producing the eruptions which are usually accompanied with intense itching, and are disfiguring and humiliating.

Years ago my blood was bad, as evidenced by skin eruptions on different parts of the body, and other symptoms, so I concluded to try S. S. S., knowing it to be highly spoken of. After using a number of bottles, I do not remember now just how much my blood was thoroughly purified and enriched and I was relieved of all eruptions and manifestations of impure blood. I believe S. S. S. to be an excellent blood medicine, and any one in need of such a medicine would do well to use it. They will find it a perfect cure as it proved to be in my case.

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While external treatment relieves temporarily it does not reach the real cause of the disease, because it does not go into the blood. S. S. S., a perfect blood purifier, neutralizes these acids and humors, and by strengthening and toning up the Liver, Kidneys and Bowels, the natural channels of bodily waste, disposes of them instead of allowing them to be forced to the surface through the skin. S. S. S. is the greatest of all tonics for building up the entire system, increasing the appetite and helping the digestion. S. S. S. cures all skin diseases promptly and permanently, leaving the skin soft and smooth. Only by keeping the blood pure can we hope to have a clear skin. Book on Skin Diseases and any medical advice you may wish free of charge.

SSS

PURELY VEGETABLE.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

that remained of the child was the skull and trunk.

In every case except that of the 8-year-old girl there was not a sign of flesh on the skull and on the inside of the skull was no sign of animal matter, the eyes even being completely gouged out.

The woman, who had lived alone for two years with her children, kept a shotgun loaded, which hung on a nail on the wall behind the front door. The barrel of this gun was found near where the bed stood, on the opposite side of the room.

A Possible Clue.

To a Metropolis reporter Mr. Towle said:

"Lula Wise has worked for me for two years, and she was faithful and industrious. She was a negro woman who never made trouble, and was very earnest and conscientious in her church affairs. She had no male visitors, and attended strictly to her own business. She was devoted to her children. She came here about two years ago from Alachua county, and was esteemed by all who knew her. She was a woman about 30 years old. She had a husband named Sam Wise, but they separated two years ago."

A little over two years ago her husband beat her and threatened to kill her. She was forced to have him arrested and he was punished by serving out a short jail sentence. After he was liberated he declined to come back home and sent word, it is alleged, that he would return some night and kill her and the whole family.

Since that time no one has heard anything from her husband and the woman believed him to be dead. Although there were a hundred people present at the scene Friday morning who claimed to know him, none had seen him or heard of him since shortly after he was liberated from jail two years ago. These friends gave the woman an excellent name.

The house occupied by the unfortunate family contained a large bed room and a kitchen, which was also used as a dining room. In one bedroom, where all the bodies were found, there were three windows and two doors, which convinces the officers that the inmates could have escaped had the house caught fire.

The indications point to a wholesale murder, and that the brute, to shield his crime, then set fire to the house.

Abscess.

Abscesses, with few exceptions, are indicative of constipation or debility. W. H. Harrison, Cleveland, Miss., writes, Aug. 15, 1902: "I want to say a word of praise for Ballard's Snow Liniment. I stepped on a nail, which caused the cords in my leg to contract and an abscess to rise in my knee, and the doctor told me that I would have a stiff leg, so one day I went to J. F. Lord's drug store (who is now in Denver, Colo.) He recommended a bottle of Snow Liniment; I got a 3c size, and it cured my leg. It is the best liniment in the world." Sold by W. M. Johnson.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

Colfax Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F., Had Interesting Session.

The members of Colfax Rebekah Lodge, I. O. O. F., held an interesting meeting Wednesday evening, the occasion being the forty-sixth anniversary of that branch of the order.

There were about forty present, and the evening was passed in a most enjoyable manner. The program comprised instrumental selections by Prof. A. J. Foskett and Miss Myrtle Fennell, a song by Miss Nell Dempsey, and the reading of a selection from "Mrs. Wiggs in the Cabbage Patch," by Miss Maude Neville. Brothers Robert McClellan and J. W. Blanding made informal addresses on the order, which were full of interest, and tinged with some humor which tended to enliven those present.

Refreshments were served, and altogether the evening was passed in a manner which will be remembered by all.

The Original.

Foley & Co., Chicago, originated Honey and Tar as a throat and lung remedy, and on account of the great merit and popularity of Foley's Honey and Tar many imitations are offered for the genuine. These worthless imitations have similar sounding names. Beware of them. The genuine Foley's Honey and Tar is in a yellow package. Ask for it and refuse any substitute. It is the best remedy for coughs and colds. J. W. McCollum & Co.

Captain Strobhar in New York.

A letter from Captain J. N. Strobhar, who is now in New York, to the publisher of The Sun, requests that the paper be sent to his address. Captain Strobhar states that he hopes to have the pleasure of seeing his friends in Gainesville in the near future.

Devoured by Worms.

Children often cry, not from pain, but from hunger, although fed abundantly. The entire trouble arises from inanition; their food is not assimilated, but devoured by worms. A few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge will cause them to cease crying and begin to thrive at once, very much to the surprise and joy of the mother. Sold by W. M. Johnson.

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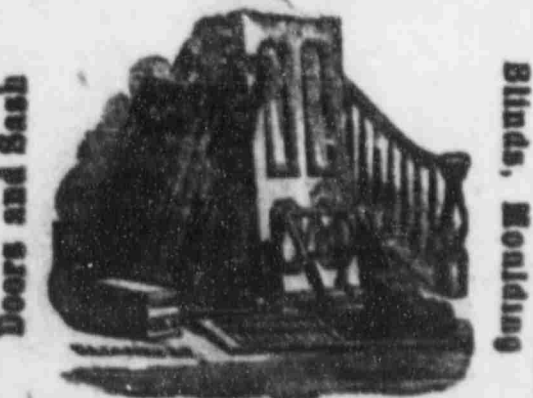
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